

Message Text

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43

ACTION EB-11

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 ISO-00 CAB-09 CIAE-00 COME-00 DODE-00

DOT-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 RSC-01 FAA-00 SS-20 L-03 IO-14

AID-20 PC-10 USIA-15 AGR-20 DRC-01 /145 W

----- 013810

R 141418Z MAY 74

FM AMEMBASSY LAGOS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4018

INFO AMEMBASSY MONROVIA

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE LAGOS 4188

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ETRN, OGEN, XA, LI, NI

SUBJECT: PROPOSAL TO ESTABLISH REGIONAL FAA OFFICE IN MONROVIA

REF: MONROVIA 2750

AMBASSADOR MANFULL'S PERSUASIVE CABLE OPENS A DISCUSSION WHICH

SHOULD RESULT IN AGONIZING BUT REALISTIC APPRAISAL OUR OVER-ALL PRESENCE IN SEVERAL AFRICAN POSTS, INCLUDING LAGOS AND APPARENTLY MONROVIA. FROM WHAT I HAVE SEEN IN LAGOS, I ENDORSE MY COLLEAGUE'S PRESENTATION RE THE LOCATION OF THE FAA REPRESENTATIVE: NEW YORK LOOKS BETTER AND BETTER. HOWEVER, THE PROBLEM IS DEEPER, FOR THE PROLIFERATION OVER THE YEARS OF ALL KINDS OF REPRESENTATIVES IS RESULTING IN OUR SPENDING A DISPROPORTIONATE AMOUNT OF TIME SIMPLY SHOVING LOGISTICAL PROBLEMS. IN LAGOS RENT ALONE IS PRICING US OUT OF THE MARKET, AND SOONER OR LATER WE MUST FACE THE EMBARRASSING FACT THAT THE TOTAL RENTAL COSTS ARE STAGGERING AND INCREASINGLY PROHIBITIVE. FOR EXAMPLE, IN THE CURRENT FISCAL YEAR RENTALS TOTAL .5 MILLION DOLLARS, AND WE ESTIMATE THAT RENOGOTIATED LEASES, INCLUDING ADVANCE PAYMENTS, COULD DRIVE THIS FIGURE TO 1.5 MILLION WITHIN ONE YEAR. ALONG WITH RENT GOES UPKEEP, RENOVATIONS, ADDITIONS, AND ALL OTHER COSTS WHICH FINALLY ACCRUE TO THE USG RATHER THAN TO LOCAL LANDLORDS. IN ADDITION,

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HERE WE, DESPITE VALID CONTRACTS, ARE CONTINUALLY BATTLEING THE

FMG TO RETAIN PROPERTIES, A PROCESS THAT IS LIKELY TO PERSIST
AS LONG AS OUNOHFEEDS ARE SO LARGE. I REALIZE THAT THERE ARE NO
EASY SOLUTIONS AND THAT OUR CONTROL OVER THE PRESENCE OF NON-STATE
PERSONNEL IS LIMITED, BUT I URGE THAT WE USE AMBASSADOR MANFULL'S
INITIATIVE AND BEGIN A GENERAL ASSESSMENT, A SMALL PART OF WHICH
IS THE FAA PROPOSAL.
REINHARDT

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Message Attributes

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Disposition Reason:
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30 JUN 2005

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Type: TE
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